



RUSSELL A. HIBBS
1869-1932

OBITUARY OF RUSSELL A. HIBBS

In the death of Dr. Russell A. Hibbs the art of surgery has lost a great leader, who in an especially difficult field opened pathways that have led to progress in directions hitherto held to be impassable.

Born in Birdsville, Kentucky, September 1, 1869, Dr. Hibbs attended Vanderbilt University and in 1890 was graduated from the medical school of the University of Louisville. After practising in Texas he came to this city in 1893 as an intern at Polyclinic Hospital. The next year he was appointed resident surgeon at the Orthopaedic Dispensary and Hospital.

Coming to New York unknown and without influence, six years later, at the early age of 30, his ability had made him surgeon-in-chief of the New York Orthopaedic Hospital, a post he was to hold until his death. His inventive genius ranged the whole field of orthopedics, and his international reputation rests on many contributions covering a wide variety of subjects. Notable among these are his improvements in the treatment of tuberculosis of the joints, his method of treating diseases and injuries of the spine by the operation of spinal fusion, and his operations on the hip, knee, ankle and other joints.

He was deeply interested in the problems of medical education, and during his many years as professor of Orthopaedic Surgery in the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University strove constantly to impress on his students his high conception of the medical calling. Through his instrumentality the Annie C. Kane Fund established fellowships enabling young doctors to continue their training during the first years after finishing internship at the New York Orthopaedic Hospital. Giving unstintingly of his time to the needy, he was especially concerned with the care of children, and as president of Hope Farm directed a community home for children at Millbrook. His major activities, however, centred about the New York Orthopaedic Dispensary and Hospital, the development and man-

agement of which formed the chief interest of his professional life. He was as great an administrator as he was a surgeon, and the magnificent new buildings of the Hospital, completed in 1916 and since enlarged, in planning and organization are largely his creation and form an enduring monument to his memory.

Dr. Hibbs died in New York, September 16, 1932. He was elected a Fellow of the Academy April 6, 1899. He was a member of the American Medical Association, American College of Surgeons, American Orthopedic Association and consulting orthopedic surgeon to a number of hospitals.

KARL VOGEL.

OBITUARY OF M. ALLEN STARR

Dr. M. Allen Starr, one of America's most distinguished neurologists and teachers, died in Marienbad, Germany, September 4, 1932. His family originally came from Middlebury, Vermont, but he was born in Brooklyn, May 16, 1854. Soon after his birth his family removed to Orange, N. J., where he had his early education in a private school. It is always interesting to know what determines an individual to follow the course which has led to eminence and distinction in his chosen calling and Dr. Starr has left some typewritten reminiscences of his early life which have a bearing on this. He felt as most people now do that certain personalities in youth have an immense influence on the future of their pupils, and he speaks feelingly of the stimulation he gained from the Rev. F. A. Adams who taught him Latin and Greek in the Orange School in an enlightened and creative way, and of his years at Princeton under the inspired teaching of Prof. Packard in Latin, Prof. Cyrus Brackett in Physics and the President of Princeton, James McCosh who made Philosophy and Psychology live in the minds of all so fortunate as to hear him.